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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 3862nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 March 1998, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council **welcomes** the announcement of the decision on 15 March 1998 relating to Brcko by the Arbitral Tribunal pursuant to Article V, Annex 2 to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Annexes thereto (collectively the Peace Agreement, S/1995/999, annex) and to the Award of 14 February 1997 (S/1997/126).

"The Security Council, recalling that the 1997 Award helped to promote the start of a peaceful, orderly and phased return process in Brcko and the beginnings of the establishment of a multi-ethnic administration, considers that the decision of 15 March 1998 represents the best interests of the peace process. The Council commends the efforts of the Presiding Arbitrator and of the International Supervisor for Brcko.

"The Security Council calls upon the Parties to Annex 2 to the Peace Agreement to implement the decision without delay, as they are obliged to do. The Council underscores the importance of prompt and full cooperation by the parties to the Peace Agreement in carrying out their commitments to implement the Peace Agreement in its entirety, including cooperation with the International Supervisor for Brcko and the Office of the High Representative."

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